

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH

ABSTRACT

Forest Department- Diversion of 412.4 ha. of forest land for underground mining of which 247 ha. for surface use for GDK-9, 10 & 10 A inclines in Ramagundam-II and OC-Project-I expansion, in favour of Singareni Collieries Company -Permission accorded-Orders issued.

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ENVIRONMENT FORESTS SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOG (FOR.I)DEPTT.

G.O.Ms.No.74

Dated:18-6-2008

Read the following:-

- 1.From Prl.CCF. Lr.No.7087/2005/F1, Dated: 2-11-2005.
- 2.State Government letter No.9683/For.I (1)/2005-1, Dated: 25-11-2005.
- 3.From GOI, Mo.EF, New Delhi, Lr.No.8- 109/2005-FC,Dated: 2-5-08.

**ORDER:**

In the letter 1<sup>st</sup> read above, the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Hyderabad had submitted a proposal under section-2 of Forest (C) Act, 1980 for diversion of 421.4 ha. of forest land for under ground mining as well as 247 ha. of the same areas for surface use in Manthani Range, Karimnagar East Division for GDK 9, 10 & 10A Inclines of Ramagundam-II Area, and Opencast Mining operations at OCP.I (Expansion) Project in favour of M/s SCCL. and requested to forward the same to Government of India for their approval.

2. The above proposal has been sent to Government of India for their approval under section-2 of Forest (C) Act, 1980 vide letter 2<sup>nd</sup> read above.

3. The Government of India in their letter 3<sup>rd</sup> read above have conveyed their final approval under Section-2 of the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980, for diversion of 412.4 ha. of forest land for underground mining of which 247 ha. of for surface use for GDK-9,10 &10A inclines in Ramagundam-II and OC-Project-I expansion in favour of M/s.SCCL subject to certain conditions..

4. The Government, after careful consideration of the proposal, hereby accord permission to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Hyderabad, for diversion of diversion of 412.4 ha. of forest land for underground mining of which 247 ha. of forest land for surface use for GDK-9,10 &10A inclines in Ramagundam-II and OC-Project-I expansion, in favour of M/s Singareni Collieries Company Limited subject to the following conditions:

1. Legal status of forest land shall remain unchanged.
2. a. Compensatory afforestation shall be raised and maintained by the State Forest Department at the project cost.
- b. Fencing, protection and regeneration of the safety zone area (100 meters strip all along the outer boundary of the mining lease area as recommended by the State Government) shall be done at the project cost. Besides this afforestation on degraded forest land, to be selected elsewhere, measuring one and a half times the area under safety zone, shall also be done at the project cost.
- c. Wherever possible and technically feasible, the User Agency shall undertake afforestation measures in the blanks within the lease area, as well as along the roads outside the lease area diverted under this approval, in consultation with the State Forest Department at the project cost.
- d. The non-forest land identified for raising Compensatory Afforestation shall be notified by the State Government as RF under Section-4 or PF under Section-29 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 or under the relevant Sections of the local Forest Act, as the case may be within a period of six months. The Nodal Officer (FC) shall report compliance in this regard.

3. The following activities shall be undertaken by the User Agency at the project.

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- (i) Proper mitigative measures to minimize soil erosion and choking of streams shall be prepared and implemented.
  - (ii) Planting of adequate drought hardy plant species and sowing of seeds to arrest soil erosion.
  - (iii) Construction of check dams, retention/toe walls to arrest sliding down of the excavated material along the contour.
  - (iv) The areas shall be reclaimed keeping in view the international practice of stabilizing the dumps by grading /benching so that angles of repose (normally less than 28 at any given place ) are maintained.
  - (v) The top soil management plan should be strictly adhered to.
4. The forest land shall not be used for any purpose other than that specified in the proposal.
  5. The approval under the F (C ) Act, 1980 is subject to the environmental clearance under the Environmental Protection Act, 1986.
  6. The user agency will make arrangement for free supply of coal to labourers and staff working on the project site so as to avoid any pressure on the adjacent forest areas.
  7. The period of permission for lease under the F (C ) Act, 1980 will be for 20 years subject to possession of valid lease by User Agency under the MMDR Act, 1957.
  8. Demarcation of mining lease area will be done on the ground at project cost using four feet high reinforced cement concrete pillars with serial numbers, forward & back bearings and distance from pillar to pillar.
  9. Mining/reclamation schedule shall be implemented by the user agency at their cost as per Environmental Management Plan/ phased programme.
  10. The user agency shall take up afforestation and soil moisture conservations works inside the forest area in 100 m radius from the permitted lease area in consultation with the forest dept. Wherever the forest density is less than 0.4, gap plantation should be taken up.
  11. The user agency shall also take up study on soil erosion/soil flow from the over burden areas with the help of GIS in consultation with the forest department.
  12. The user agency shall take up the de-silting of the village tanks within five km area from the mine lease boundary as a Corporate's social responsibility so as to mitigate the impact of siltation of such tanks if any.
  13. In case of underground mining, the user agency shall take up plantation over the surface area wherever the forest density is less than 0.4. Gap planting should be taken up in the areas where density is between 0.4 to 0.7. The user agency will protect the area till the life of the underground mining in consultation with Forest Department.
  14. Any other condition that the State Govt. or the CCF (Central), Regional Office, Bangalore may impose from time to time in the interest of conservation, protection or development of forests.
  5. The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Hyderabad is directed to take necessary action accordingly in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

JANAKI R. KONDAPI,  
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

To

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Hyderabad

Copy to:

The Inspector General of Forests, GOI, Mo.EF, Paryavaran Bhavan,  
New Delhi.

The CCF (C ), GOI, Mo.EF, Bangalore.

The SCCL, Hyderabad.

//FORWARDED BY ORDR//

SECTION OFFICER